

June 21, 2026 – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – June 20th – Vigil Mass – Happy Father's Day

5:00PM Intentions of All Fathers, Grandfathers and Other Influential Men in Our Lives (Fr. Benn)

Sunday – June 21st – Mass is Streamed Live – Happy Father's Day

9:30AM Intentions of All Fathers, Grandfathers and Other Influential Men in Our Lives (Fr. Benn)

Monday – June 22nd – Weekday – St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; St. John Fisher, Bishop & Thomas More, Martyrs

9:00AM Speedy Recovery for Fr. Benn – Surgery June 24 (Parish Community)

Tuesday – June 23rd – Weekday –

9:00AM Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Wed. – June 24th – Weekday – The Nativity of St. John The Baptist

9:00AM NO MASS - Fr. Benn Surgery; Readings & Communion Distribution

Thurs. – June 25th – Weekday –

9:00AM Reading & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – June 26th – Weekday –

9:00AM NO MASS – Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Saturday – June 27th – Weekday – St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop

9:00AM NO Mass – Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life!

Lynda Stefanski, Peter Libasci, Joseph Bonk, Tom Trotter, Dave Blessing, Jeff Olimpo, Matt Sebastiano, Maria Middleton, Fern & John Gibson, William Merkle, Russ Funkhouser, Joseph Jones, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Andrew Schlotter, Bethany Steinberg, Joann Thaler, Julie Petry, Steven Fusco, Greg Gambino, Patrick D. Brown, Douglas Defreest, Jr., Benny LoScalzo, Steve Ombalski, Jane Burger, Ginny LaBar, Michael Gawronski, Marciano Alves Viera, Bernadette Maszczak, Shawn Kelly, Beth Collins, Nikia Helfant Messier, Anthony Libasci, Louis Cortese, Faith Marie Messier, Ann Lewis, Alvin LaBar, Emma Jones, **Bernie Boylan**

Church of Saint Lawrence

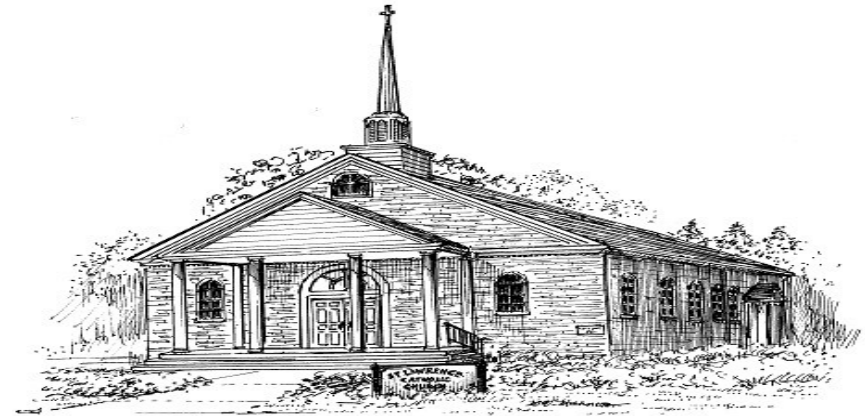
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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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Mass Schedule: Saturday Evenings @ 5PM; Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM; Holy Days @ 9AM, 12 Noon & 7PM; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday @ 9AM, Thursday Readings & Communion Distribution Only.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday @ 9:30AM – 11AM

Confessions: Saturday @ 3:30PM - 4:30PM @ Church. Via Appointment - Contact Rectory

Holy Name Society: Meets Monthly; Second Monday @ 7PM @ Ceader Hall (Sept – May)

Altar Rosary Society: Meets Monthly; Second Thursday @ 7PM (Sept – May)

Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes: Meets Monthly, First Saturday Following the 9AM Mass in Ceader Hall.

Marthas & Marys Ministry: Faith based group, meets First Friday @ 11:30AM @ Ceader Hall

Weddings: Contact Rectory for Details. Plans Preferred Minimun 6 Months in Advance.

Parish PREP Classes & New Parishoners: Contact Rectory via Phone or email.

Rectory Office: Mon-Fri @ 9:30AM – 12 noon

Pastor's Corner June 21, 2026

An initial reading of this weekend's Scripture Readings might leave one with a sense of foreboding or pessimism. *"I hear the whispering of many: Terror on every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him! All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine."* The words of the Prophet Jeremiah and Our Lord seem to come across as if they are counseling their followers to brace themselves for a lot of negative, if not violent, responses from those in their lives, all because they believe in the simple and loving values of God, in which they have chosen to form their lives. Truth be told, these Jewish and Gentile followers of God lived within cultures that adhered to the life values that if you were to be happy and secure in life, you had to grasp for "Power" or any form of influence that gave you an advantage over anyone in your life; and that you had a right to use those advantages in any way you thought acceptable. This pagan life-value was something ingrained in every person from the time they were born. It wasn't decades old; it wasn't even centuries old; it was thousands and thousands of years old. For example, in business, it was not the business person who had an obligation to be trustworthy; it was the consumer's responsibility not to be victimized. To this day, it is a pathetic reality that perpetuates itself in every Country/culture around the globe, which includes the West. Initially, such behavior was shunned within our American culture; but over the last 50-60 years there has been a growing apathy towards the Judeo-Christian values upon which America was founded. Now, people of those values are a minority. Have we not experienced and witnessed an indifference by many of our Countrymen and the political

leaders (of both Parties) whom they elect and who insist they know what is best for America? Those who advocate moderation are portrayed with the cruel characterizations of being "un-Patriotic" and "un-American". Have we not experienced criticism and rejection from our fellow Americans because we advocate God's values in our laws and national decisions? It shows in our rejection of Life to the unborn; our willingness to abuse God's gift to America of its environment; namely, our water, air, and land; our portrayal of the helpless ones who seek to come into our Country. This is exactly.....exactly what God is tasking Jeremiah to do; i.e., to confront the leaders and people of Israel with their greed, their unwillingness to use their wealth to help the poor, to stop rationalizing their abandonment of the helpless, who were characterized by the widowed and orphans. In our time, none of these are easy issues to resolve; but they were resolved in the past by those who never forgot how generous God was to them and their ancestors, and are resolvable for those who are open to God's Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, in our lifetime, many of our people and leaders continue to close their hearts to God's Holy Spirit, and it shows.

In today's Gospel, Our Lord says, *"Fear no one! Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known.....And do not be afraid of those who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul...."* My sisters and brothers, both Jeremiah and Our Lord knew what they were talking about. They knew their world, and they knew that many people within it, including those among their family, friends, and Countrymen, felt no shame in rejecting God and His values, which were always grounded in the Truth and Love

of the Father. No doubt, they must have felt overwhelmed by peer pressure; many would die alone, in prison, or be executed; yet, they never gave up trusting in the wisdom of their God and the love of their God. When Jeremiah and Jesus spoke these words to their fellow Jews, God was speaking not only to them, but also to every future generation, including us. It is so important as people of Faith, especially our Catholic Faith, that we stay close to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; especially in our personal prayer, in our gathering with each other to celebrate the Eucharist, in our personal choices to live in moderation, to include the care of anyone who is helpless, to be chaste and to let those around us know that we believe that we have an obligation to take these risks no matter how poor those around us say we will become. The burden is on us to speak the truth, to care for the person who needs to be defended, who is lonely, who has no advocate, who is misunderstood; not on us, who already enjoy the warmth of the Father's love.

Your brother in Christ,



IMPORTANT MASS SCHEDULE: week of June 21 is subject to change. Updates, if needed, will be "e" blasted + in Church announcement. Fr. Lucas Mass on Sat 6/27@ 5PM & Sun 6/28 @ 9:30AM

Collections: June 14 Parish @ \$1553 Pro Life Wooden Roses @ \$72. Thank You!!

Special Collection: Peter's Pence, June 20-21 & 27-28.

Special Note: - FYI: Our Parish 2026 Fiscal Close is June 30. July 1, 2026 starts our Fiscal 2027 year. Next thing you know it will be Christmas:>



Annual Parish Dinner: Tuesday, June 23 @ LaBella Via, 41 Third St., Phillipsburg, NJ. Cost \$25pp payable to: "The Holy Name Society", cash bar, soft drinks provided. Forms in vestibule of Church.



- 1) Why was the ghost so tired?
- 2) What is Marco's favorite clothing store?
- 3) What vegetable is kind to everyone?
- 4) Why did the computer catch a cold?
- 5) Why did the watch go on vacation?

- 1- He worked the grave yard shift, 2- Polo, 3-sweet potato, 4- it left a window open, 5- it needed to unwind